

Judith plans to retire from her current position as a liaison between the CRS and the House of Representatives on May 3, 2013, and hopes to spend more time with her husband golfing and traveling.

I am honored to pay tribute today to Judith Frazier-Thompson and her long and distinguished career in service to his great Nation. She will be greatly missed on Capitol Hill, and I join in wishing her the best in her retirement.

PROTECTING ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY AND COST EFFECTIVE HEALTHCARE SERVICES

HON. MARK E. AMODEI

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2013

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, true healthcare reform will lower costs, improve care, provide greater patient choice, and increase access to care for all Americans. Congress missed an opportunity in 2010 to achieve these goals in the extensive legislation enacted by Democrats. As a result, we must go back to the drawing board and consider real options to address the rising costs in our healthcare system. As we pursue these goals, we should look to solutions that have already been effective in reducing costs and meeting the needs of patients.

Skilled home healthcare is one example of the type of effective care that Congress should protect. In 1972, the US Department of Veterans Affairs established the Home Based Primary Care Program (HBPC) in order to meet the needs of its growing population of chronically ill veterans. This program established a novel and creative model of care for the VA's growing population of chronically ill Veterans—providing skilled and high quality care to these patients, and promoting their independence by providing this care to patients in their own homes.

The results of this program have been remarkable. Studies show that this program has provided high quality care and resulted in great satisfaction among patients. What is truly impressive, though, is that this program resulted in a substantial reduction in nursing home stays and hospitalizations for its program participants. The HBPC has achieved a 62 percent reduction in inpatient hospital days and an 88 percent reduction in nursing home days, achieving a 24 percent REDUCTION IN TOTAL COSTS.

I am not aware of any reform to our healthcare system or to Medicare that has ever achieved similar results. We must reform the Medicare program because it is not solvent in its current form, and will reach insolvency by 2024. As we consider reform to the Medicare program, I believe that we should be incentivizing cost-effective and high quality services that show results. I urge my colleagues to look to the success of the HBPC at the Veterans Administration as a possible model for how Medicare can provide high quality care and lower costs.

Forty years of data from the HBPC program proves that many medical treatments that were once offered only in a hospital or a physician's office are now being safely, effectively, and much more cost-efficiently provided in patients' homes. These services are typically

less expensive, more convenient, and as effective as care provided in a hospital or skilled nursing facility. The success of the Home Based Primary Care program at the VA is evidence that skilled home healthcare not only is good for seniors, but also good for taxpayers. Mr. Speaker, skilled home healthcare is an asset that we need to fully utilize in order to further reduce costs in our Nation's healthcare system. As Congress works to improve our healthcare delivery system, we should avoid changes to the Medicare program that would limit patient access to proven and cost effective services like skilled home healthcare.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT'S CUESTA COLLEGE

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2013

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the San Luis Obispo County Community College District's Cuesta College.

On April 16, 1963, the San Luis Obispo Community College District was established by local voters to serve the residents of the Central Coast. Its first classes were provided in 1964, and it became a fully operational campus and was given the name Cuesta College in 1965. Ground was broken for Cuesta's first permanent buildings in 1970, and since that time, the San Luis Obispo campus has flourished into a high-quality, well-equipped and dynamic institution of higher learning.

Cuesta College expanded to include a North County Campus in Paso Robles in 1998 and now offers off-campus evening instruction at its South County Center in Arroyo Grande. In addition to its academic course offerings, Cuesta provides technical, vocational, and continuing education programs to better serve a variety of students throughout the county. Cuesta College now serves more than 11,000 students among all its campuses.

Cuesta College is a source of great pride for San Luis Obispo County and the entire Central Coast. I commend its faculty, administration and other teaching staff for their commitment to excellence and dedication to the students they serve.

Today, I congratulate Cuesta on 50 successful years in providing high-quality educational resources to Central Coast students. I am honored to represent such an esteemed institution and look forward to seeing the important and innovative resources Cuesta will continue to provide to our local students in the years to come.

HONORING GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS FOR THEIR DECISION TO SERVE THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AS A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES

HON. PATRICK MURPHY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 23, 2013

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 117 high school seniors and

members of the JROTC from the Treasure Coast and Palm Beaches for their commendable decision to enlist in the United States Armed Forces. Of these 117 enlistees, 71 are Army enlistees, 12 are Navy enlistees, 21 are Marine Corps enlistees, and 13 are Air Force enlistees. These young men and women have shown bravery and courage in their dedication to defend our country. It is important they know that they have the full support of the United States House of Representatives and the American people. It is the dedication of these individuals which reminds us that though diverse problems may lie ahead, the United States remains a shining example of strength and freedom in an often divided world.

The service of these young men and women must not go unrecognized. I want to personally thank these 117 local graduating seniors for their selflessness and commitment to our Nation by naming them here today: Charles Ballard, Joshua Blair, Colin Cervinsky, Kyle Crouch, Tyler Stone, Christopher Wentz, Johan Yardan, Frank Fuggetta, Mikayla Sulzer, Rodrigo Chong, Ricardo Ortega, Cory Dougherty, Joseph Evens, Robert Oliver, Kalib Perkins, Nathan White, Romahd Holman, Oscar Caceres, Cody Clendenin, Vanessa Dorrington, Miranda Egan, Samuel Hsu, Troy Macmillan, Kyle Schenck, Anthony Tate, Michael Vanderburg, Tyler Wahl, Holsinger Kauffman, Alexander Lugo, Kyle Noel, Colton Picazio, Thomas Burns, Kyle Hale, Christien Lashinsky, John Sawtell, Andrew Schwier, Brittany Block, Irving Cintron, Randy Fernandez, Kevin Gama, Michell Holsinger, Michael Masters, Nicholas Morris, Delgado Ojeda, Anthony Rodriguez, Venezya Synakorn, Ronald Ferreira, Antoinette Johnson, Dyonn Lawrence, Delvaughn Marshall, Christian Prados, Traveon Stewart, Victoria Faulkner, Amanda Parsons, Scarlet Maldonado, Hayde Mickley, Cody Ehrlund, Justin Thomas, Sergio Duque, Dominic Gardner, Yesenia Munoz, Audrey Wila, Lion Rojo, Meaghan Parish, Aaron Humyn, Brian Borgman, Joseph Riggio, Helena Thompson, Jairo Herrera, Nathan Smith, Shawn Gaines, Taphawah Thompson, Carlos Cabrera, Andres Chajud, Bradley Harpster, Matthew Cancino, Richard Jean Baptiste, Austin Mena, Matthew Cancino, Dany Salazar, Austin Sullivan, Juan Pepper, Julian Vazquez, Issac Velasquez, Matthew Colson, Kelsey Canapary, Connor John O'Donnell, Bryan Keoskie, Joseph Mazza, Anthony Armeli, Jamie Miller, Elena Jovanov, Shamsiddine El-Nil, Daniel Rubino, Deanne Collins, Yoshpal Harrow, Andrew Mills, Justin Kaufman, James Dixon, Cadlynnne Dunhill, David Quintero, Dontrail Durden, Zachary Mccourt, Francisco Bacilio, Shvon Brijnath, Christopher Lopresti, Marcos Pinon, Zachary Porter, Breyer Bullock, Luis Damian, Katrina Williams, Shaklia Housen, Alex Slusher, Aaliyah Jackson, Ameen Sardar, Jason Audette, and Henry Paulk III. All will be recognized on May 9th at the Our Community Salutes event in Palm Beach Gardens.

These young men and women have shown bravery and courage in their dedication to defend our country. It is important they know that they have the full support of the United States House of Representatives and the American people. It is the dedication of these individuals which reminds us that though diverse problems may lie ahead, the United States remains a shining example of strength and freedom in an often divided world.